

CLAIMS

1. A connection control method for an information processing apparatus, comprising:

5 a step of receiving identification information for identifying each network out of a plurality of wireless networks;

a step of wirelessly connecting a wireless network identified by arbitrary identification
10 information;

a step of inquiring, of other information processing apparatuses in the wirelessly connected wireless network, whether the other information processing apparatuses have a function of performing
15 predetermined processing; and

a step of controlling connection to one of the other information processing apparatuses in accordance with a response to the inquiry,

wherein the information processing apparatus
20 causes the connected one of the other information processing apparatuses to perform the predetermined processing.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein in the step of controlling, when the response to the inquiry
25 is a positive response, one of the other information processing apparatuses which has positively responded is controlled to be connected.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein when a plurality of positive responses exists, one of the other information processing apparatuses which has first positively responded is controlled to be
5 connected.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein when a plurality of positive responses exists and the predetermined processing together with the one of the other information processing apparatuses which has
10 first positively responded abnormally ends, another information processing apparatus which has positively responded is controlled to be connected.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein in the step of controlling, when the response to the inquiry
15 is a negative response or no response exists, another information processing apparatus in a wireless network other than the wirelessly connected wireless network is controlled to be connected.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein in the
20 step of inquiring, the inquiry is performed by a broadcast message for all information output terminals in a single network.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein wireless connection includes wireless connection according to a
25 wireless LAN method defined by IEEE 802.11.

8. The method according to claim 7, wherein the information processing apparatus wirelessly

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communicates in a communication mode according to an infrastructure mode defined by IEEE 802.11.

9. The method according to claim 7, wherein the information processing apparatus wirelessly

5 communicates in a communication mode according to an ad-hoc mode defined by IEEE 802.11.

10. An information processing apparatus comprising:

means for receiving identification information for identifying each network out of a plurality of

10 wireless networks;

means for wirelessly connecting a wireless network identified by arbitrary identification information;

15 means for inquiring, of other information processing apparatuses in the wirelessly connected wireless network, whether the other information processing apparatuses have a function of performing predetermined processing; and

20 means for controlling connection to one of the other information processing apparatuses in accordance with a response to the inquiry,

wherein the information processing apparatus causes the connected one of the other information processing apparatuses to perform the predetermined
25 processing.

11. A program for causing a computer to execute a method defined in claim 1.

12. A computer-readable recording medium which records a program defined in claim 11.